[13th August 1956

(b) The society was informed that all sales effected by Cottage Industrial Co-operative Societies of pots, etc., produced by members of such societies were permanently exempt from the levy of sales tax with effect from 1st April 1955.

Failure of second crop in Malabar in 1955–56

* 80-H *Q.*—Sri E. T. KUNHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of petitions received by the Tahsildar, Ponnani, from agriculturists regarding the failure of second crop in 1955–56 due to excess rainfall;

(b) the total acreage so affected; and

(c) the relief measures adopted by the Government in the matter?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) One hundred and ninety-three.

(b) (i) *Double-crop wet lands.*—Out of 113 acres of double-crop wet lands, crops in 58 acres were partially affected and crops in the remaining 55 acres were completely lost.

(ii) *Single-crop wet lands.*—Out of 491 acres of single-crop wet lands crops in 222 acres were partially affected and crops in 269 acres were completely lost.

(c) A sum of Rs. 835 was granted to 74 cultivators as financial assistance at the rate of Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 each cultivator. In addition, Takkavi Loans amounting to Rs. 9,970 were also sanctioned to 124 deserving persons.

Firka Village Officers' demands

* 80-I *Q.*—Sri K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received recently any resolutions passed by the Firka Village Officers' Associations in the Malabar district at the meetings held on the 15th June 1956; and

(b) if so, the requests contained therein and the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) Yes.

(b) The Associations have requested early orders for the redress of their grievances. The Cabinet Sub-Committee which is going into the service conditions of Village Officers has not submitted its report. The Government will pass orders in the matter as soon as the Committee submits its report.